per Brig Sortine
From W. Coles
Recd June 18.

Rev
William A. McKenney
Baltimore
A. M. C. S.

705
686
195
56

From
W. Coles
Harper
Cape Palmas
Recd Aug 18. 1836

Harper February 5 1836

Revd Mr McKenney Sir I Received your letter and also the the paper & 2 pen knives which I Received with much thankfulness and was very glad to heare from you. You wrote me that you had not been down in Somerset County Since I left but I hope you have Not Gone up yet, because I want to See them on the Shores of Africa where they can be free and Not Molested by No nation whatever I want to Say a few word to them and have Not time to write to them but I want you to Say to them that I am now in Liberia & heare I intend to Stay & Enjoy freedom in its fullest measure. But I am Not willing to Enjoy the benefits of freedom & Not invite my Brethering to partake with me but I want all to Come. I can heare of their Conditions & Circumstances, and I would Not be in their places, No, not for all the Surrons the united States could afford what is the colored man in that Country? I will answer the Question My Self. "he is No more than a Dog or a beast of burden" Set him be free or Slave he Must Labour for the white man, & after all he can only obtain a good name & hardly that, for If he once obtains it he Must Look out If he do Not lose it again. It is true Mr Whittington & price carried home a false report but well hundred of Sound Minded Men Stood back for that. Them Gentlemen never had been in No part of Africa but Monrovia & what Could they See? they could See Nothing but an Ill Conducted Government & a parcel of Dissatisfied people —

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

3. 1836